

À la cime des cordes

When a soprano meets a violin.



Jennifer Lindshield

Soprano

Carnegie Hall

*Regional Finalist,
Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions*

Today scientists are able to prove the remarkable acoustical similarities in that the violin can produce human-like formants, the harmonic tones that correspond to resonances in the vocal tract.* (Nagyvary, J., Tai, H.C.)

Jennifer and Gilles present duets with this beautiful acoustical match. Compositions by Darius Milhaud, Rebecca Clarke, Gustav Holst, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Heitor Villa-Lobos explore this voice and violin combination without piano. This unique repertoire ranges in styles from folk songs to polytonality and is performed in the French, English and Portuguese languages.

Soprano Jennifer Lindshield (Carnegie Hall) and violinist Gilles Henry (Orchestre de Paris) present "À la cime des cordes".

The great early Italian violin makers, Stradivari and Guarneri, created violins that produce the most female-like tones. It is argued that this is part of the reason why they are considered so valuable. Gilles Henry plays on a 1785 Lorenzo Storioni: a violin made by a student of Stradivari.

For centuries it has been thought that violins "sing" with a female soprano voice. Francesco Geminiani, the baroque violinist, advised students that "the art of playing consists in giving the instrument a tone that shall in a manner rival the most perfect human voice".



Gilles Henry

Violin

*Orchestre de Paris
Silver Medalist,
Geneva International Music
Competition*

Jennifer Lindshield

Jennifer Lindshield, soprano, began her musical studies at the age of 4 by learning the piano and the violin.. Originally from Lindsborg, Kansas, she obtained a double BM in vocal studies and violin performance from Wichita State University as well as an MM in opera from Arizona State University. During her studies, she was a finalist in the Naftger Competition and regional finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition. She attended the Aspen Music Festival (Colorado), as both a violinist in the Sinfonietta orchestra and as a soprano with the Aspen Opera Theater Center.

Among her opera engagements, Jennifer sang the role of Lia in Debussy's *L'enfant prodigue* with the Sakrale Oper (Berlin), Fanny Legrand in Massenet's *Sapho* and the title role of *Suor Angelica* by Puccini with the Opera Oggi (New York). She made her Carnegie Hall debut as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* with the Pacific Opera. In concert, she performed *Der Hirt auf dem Felsen* by Schubert with the Festival Le chant de la rive, the *Grand Mass in C minor* by Mozart with the Ensemble Orchestral des Hauts-des-Seine, and Handel's *Messiah* and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* at the Messiah Festival of the Arts (Kansas).

Over the past few seasons, Jennifer Lindshield has given more than three hundred performances in six countries in *Soap*. The show has toured London, Budapest, Tel Aviv, Melbourne, and many cities in Germany, including Berlin, Hamburg and Munich.



Photos : Harry Matenaer

« *...whose voice is nothing short of spectacular.* »

« *There is no dispute about the skill on display.* »



EveningStandard

Gilles Henry



Born in 1955, Gilles Henry started playing the violin at the age of five. At the age of 12, he entered the Conservatoire national supérieure de musique et de danse de Paris (CNSMDP), first in the preparatory class of René Benedetti, then in the upper class of Gérard Jarry in which he obtained the First Prize. He was then admitted, by competition, to the third cycle of improvement where he had the chance to work for two years with some of the greatest masters of the violin, Henryk Szering, Sandor Vegh and Franco Gulli.

Gilles Henry participated in several international competitions: he was a semi-finalist of the Paganini International Competition in Genoa, then winner of the Naples International Competition and won the Silver Medal at the Geneva International Competition (no First Prize was awarded).

He took part in several tours as a soloist with the Orchestre Jean-François Paillard. At the same time, he followed the chamber music development cycle at the CNSMDP, with his brother Yves, in sonata training in Maurice Crut's class. For two years, they studied the repertoire of sonata and discovered the trio to which they henceforth devoted themselves.

In 1978, Gilles Henry joined the Orchestre de Paris, where he has enjoyed working under the baton of some of the greatest conductors of today. His passion for the profession of orchestral musician led him to participate, as a member of the teaching team, in the creation of the French Youth Orchestra. He also gives several concerts as a soloist with the Orchestre national de chambre de Toulouse.

Alongside his activities as an instrumentalist, Gilles Henry teaches at the Conservatoire national de région de Rueil-Malmaison.

Program

45 - 70 MINUTES

Rebecca Clarke :

Three Irish Country Songs

Gustav Holst :

Four Songs for Voice & Violin

Darius Milhaud :

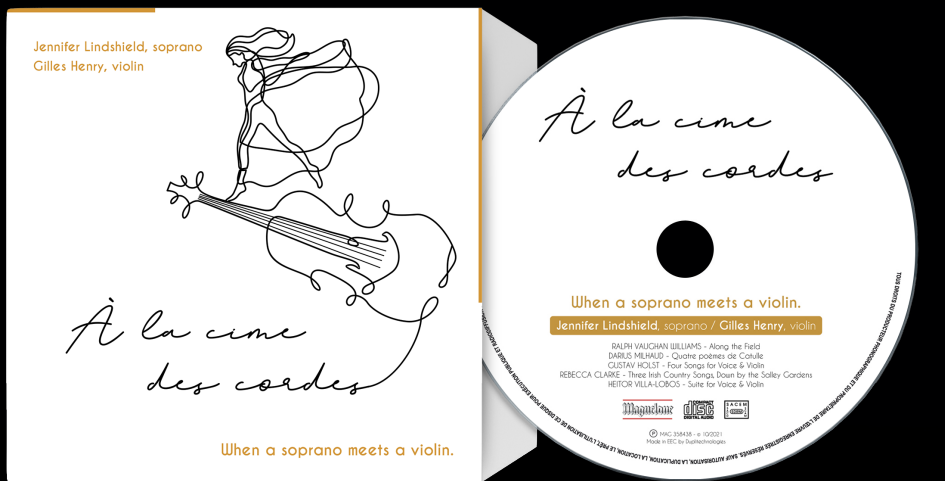
Quatre Poèmes de Catulle

Ralph Vaughan Williams :

Along the Field

Heitor Villa-Lobos :

Suite para canto e violino



Our recording of this program is available on CD and Digital Download.
www.jenniferlindshield.com

Video

▶ À la cime des cordes Trailer

Quotations

« Magical moments !
Exceptional performers,
and unique choice of works »

Brigitte and Bruno R-F

« A remarkable vocal and
instrumental performance, in
its subtlety and
expressiveness. »

Bernard D

« It's music at its peak ! »

Sister Anne-Marie

« Jennifer Lindshield and
Gilles Henry explore with skill
and talent a vast range of
technical and expressive
possibilities. The voice fully
becomes an instrument, and
the violin, voice, reveal a
repertoire little known to the
public. A rare, convincing
approach. »

Pascal Le Pennec, composer

« Mesmerizing ! »

Géraldine

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